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Regional Secretary
Sarah Carpenter



SOUTH EAST REGION

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

22nd June 2022

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

RE: Norse Atlantic UK Limited
Docket No. DOT-OST-2022-0072

On behalf of Unite the Union (Unite), I write to express my support for the application for an exemption and foreign air carrier permit filed by Norse Atlantic UK Ltd (Norse UK).

Unite is the second largest trade union in the UK, representing over 1.2 million members across various industries including transport. Unite represents the largest number of unionized employees in every area of civil aviation, from engineering and cabin crew to check-in and administration. We are therefore a leading and influential voice on matters affecting our air transport workforce.

In its application, Norse UK proposes to operate scheduled air services between the United Kingdom and the United States from late 2022. Its proposition is based on offering affordable fares to consumers on Boeing's environmentally-efficient 787 aircraft, enabling a greater number of air passengers to travel between these two leading aviation markets. Norse UK is looking to provide fair competition on core routes from its London Gatwick base as well as serve a number of unserved or underserved routes.

Over half a million passengers per annum are expected to fly between the United Kingdom and the United States on Norse's proposed services, generating tremendous benefits for communities, consumers, and the general economy. Above all, these new air services will create much needed quality jobs both in the United States and the United Kingdom.

We are encouraged by Norse UK's commitment to fostering an inclusive work culture, its pledge to employ all its flight crew directly and its open approach to engage with trade unions to collectively bargain decent terms and conditions.

At a time where the industry is still recovering from the devastating effects of the Covid-19 pandemic, which included tens of thousands of workers losing their jobs, Norse UK's employment plans and commitments are particularly welcome to ensure job security to the many flight crew who wish to take to the skies again.

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For the reasons outlined above, I encourage the Department to approve Norse UK's application.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Claire Simpson".

Claire Simpson
Regional Officer
Unite the Union